

**Minutes**  
**MLA Legislative Advisory Panel**  
**March 1, 2013**  
**West County Branch - Anne Arundel County Public Library**  
**Odenton, MD**

In Attendance: Skip Auld, Jay Bansbach, Mary Baykan (Chair), Kay Bowman, Margaret Carty, Denise Davis, Natalie Edington, Jim Fish, Valerie Gross, Mary Hastler, Irene Padilla, Carrie Willson-Plymire, Evelyn Tchiyuka, Lynn Wheeler and Linda Williams.

Meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. Minutes of the February meeting were read and approved with corrections.

Federal Legislation

Natalie reminded the panel of the upcoming National Library Day in Washington D.C. A discussion of the Sequestration and how it might impact Maryland and public libraries followed. Irene reported that the Division was already told to expect serious cuts in its budget over and above what cuts were already anticipated.

State Legislation

Mary gave an update on SB6433/HB685 – Libraries – County Library Capital Project Grant – Wealth-Based Cost Share. The first hearing on the bill was held on February 20<sup>th</sup> in the House Ways and Means Committee. Delegate Melony G. Griffith sponsored the House version of the bill and did an excellent job in introducing the bill to the committee. The panel testifying in favor of the bill consisted of: Mary Baykan representing MLA and MAPLA, John Taube representing Western Maryland and Alleghany County and Jennifer Ranck representing the Eastern Shore and Somerset County. Mary felt the hearing went very well and thanked all those who got written testimony submitted in support of the bill. The Senate version of the bill will be heard in the Senate Budget and Tax Committee on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Plans are to use the same testifiers.

Mary reported that the push to restore library road signs continues to be on-going and will most likely continue past the end of this legislative session. Plans will be made to meet with the Highway Administration at some future date.

There was a discussion concerning the Library Per Capita Formula and how state funding was actually calculated. Irene was asked if there possible to have a representative from the Finance Division of MSDE come to MAPLA to actually explain how the per capita is derived. It was pointed out that there are a number of new directors now in Maryland and this would be very timely. Irene said she would make the request. It was mentioned that the summer MAPLA would be a good venue since it will be held most likely somewhere in the center of the state. Lynn said she would make the request to MAPLA president, John Venditta, to have that on the summer agenda.

Mary stated that all bills including HB 895 that have potential to impact libraries will continue to be monitored.

Both Mary and Margaret reported on the success of Maryland Library Day held in Annapolis on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Margaret reported that the final count was over 147 guests, with 37 elected officials attending. Mary said she was pleased to see so many leaders from the House and Senate in attendance. A general discussion of the events of the day followed.

Lynn Wheeler, President of the Maryland Library Association, announced that Maryland Library Association Executive Director, Margaret Carty was chosen this year as one of the Top 100 Women in Maryland. Mary Hastler, Director of Harford County Public Library also made the list. The award ceremony to honor the honorees will be held at the Meyerhof Theater on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations were extended to Margaret at this well deserved honor.

Irene reported that the Maryland Advisory Council on Libraries will be meeting in March.

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.